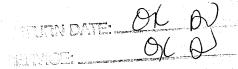
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Application of <u>Dowd Water</u> <u>Systems, Inc.</u> requesting approval for the establishment of rates and charges for Emerald Shores and Isle of Pines in Lexington County



Docket No. 2001-181-W



Testimony of Charles A. Creech Utilities Department

Public Service Commission of South Carolina

22

1	Q	WOULD YOU PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS AND
2		OCCUPATION?
3	A.	My name is Charles A. Creech and my business address is, 101 Executive Center
4		Drive, Columbia, SC 29210. I am employed by the Public Service Commission of
5		South Carolina in the Utilities Department as Chief of Water and Wastewater. I have
6		been with the Commission since July of 1972.
7	Q.	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY REGARDING DOWD
8		WATER SYSTEMS, INC.?
9	A.	The purpose of my testimony is to advise the Commission of the issues under
10		consideration in this matter, and of the service provided by the Company.
11	Q.	WOULD YOU PLEASE TELL THE COMMISSION THE MATTERS THAT
12		ARE BEFORE THEM TODAY?
13	A.	The matter before the Commission today is for approval of a flat rate for monthly
14		water usage in Emerald Shores and Isle of Pines Subdivisions, both being located in
15		the Chapin area of Lexington County and also approving service areas for these two
16		subdivisions.
17		The water system in the Isle of Pines Subdivision was initially installed in the late
18		1960s and presently consists of 20 customers, 5 full time and 15 part time. The
19		customers in Isle of Pines have been paying \$12.00 a month flat rate for water. These
20		rates have not been approved by the Commission. Staff surveyed the water system on
21		October 9, 2001. The pressure varied from 48 PSI TO 60 PSI. The only service

complaint was that at times the water pressure was low.

- 1 The water system in Emerald Shores Subdivision was initially installed in the early
- 2 1970s and presently consists of 17 full time customers. The customers in Emerald
- 3 Shores have been paying \$20.00 per month flat rate for water. These rates have not
- 4 been approved by the Commission.

5 Q. SINCE THE NOTICE OF FILING WAS MAILED TO EACH CUSTOMER,

6 HOW HAVE THE AFFECTED CUSTOMERS RESPONDED?

- 7 A. Staff received four (4) letters in opposition to the rate increase in Emerald Shores. The
- biggest objection was the amount of the increase. We received no letters opposing or
- 9 approving of the rates in Isle of Pines, primarily because the amount of the requested
- increase was not as great as the amount requested in Emerald Shores. Staff has been
- aware of service problems that existed in the Isle of Pines for about a week starting
- around August 1, 2001. We have surveyed some of the customers in this subdivision
- and one of the homeowners and a leader in the community and he is of the belief that
- the system will be taken over by the homeowners and operated as a homeowners
- association. Mrs. Dowd has agreed to give the system to them.

16 Q. HAVE YOU FILED ANY EXHIBITS WITH YOUR TESTIMONY?

- 17 A. We have filed four (4) exhibits as part of this Report.
- 18 Exhibit #1 shows the monthly impact on the customers..
- 19 Exhibit #2 shows the impact of the requested rates on revenue.
- 20 Exhibits #3 & #4 are the results of Staff 's review of the water systems.

21 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

22 A. Yes, it does.

23

EFFECT OF PROPOSED RATE ON MONTHLY CUSTOMERS' BILL

ISLE OF PINES

No. of Customers	Present Rates	Proposed Rates	Amount of increase
5 fulltime	\$12.00	\$35.00	\$23.00
15 parttime	\$12.00	\$25.00	\$13.00

EMERALD SHORES

No. of Customers	Present Rates	Proposed Rates	Amount of increase
20 fulltime	\$20.00	\$62.00	\$42.00

REVENUE AT PRESENT & PROPOSED RATES

ISLE OF PINES

No. of Customers	Present Revenue	Proposed Revenue	Amount of increase
5 fulltime 15 parttime	\$ 720	\$2,100	\$1,380
	\$2,160	\$4,500	\$2,340

EMERALD SHORES

No. of Customers	Present Revenue	Proposed Revenue	Amount of increase
17 fulltime	\$4,080	\$12,648	\$8,568

COMBINED

No. of Customers	Present Revenue	Proposed Revenue	Amount of increase
,	\$6,960	\$19,248	\$12,288

WATER SYSTEM INSPECTION

UTILITY Dowd Water Systems, Inc.			INSPECTED BY		Charles A. Creech		
SYSTEM Isle of Pines			DATE INSPECTED		October 9, 2001		
		COM	IPANY REP	Mrs	s. Sue Dowd		
TOTAL NUMBER OF W	ELL SITES	1					
NUMBER OF WELLS NO	OT IN OPERATIO	N	0	<u>-</u>			
REASON FOR INOPERA	BLE WELLS						
PUMP HOUSES	YES _	√	NO	NUM	IBER 1		
ELECTRIC WIRING	ACCEP	TABLE	✓_	_	FAULTY		
EXPOSED PIPING	YES		NO _	✓			
LOCATION	•						
CHLORINATOR	YES		NO	√	· 		
OTHER CHEM	IICALS YES	1.10	NO	√			
IN USE	YES		NO _				
STORAGE	PRESSURE TA	VK _	✓	NON-PRI	ESSURE TANK		
	GROUND LEVI	EL _	√	OVERHE	AD		
SIZE IN GALLONS	800						
P.S.I. AT TANK	65						
METERS	YES		NO _	✓			
FIRE HYDRANTS	YES		NO _	√			
BLOW OFF	YES	√	NO				
AIR IN LINES	YES		NO _	✓			
SAND IN WATER	YES		NO _	. √			
CLARITY OF WATER	Good				, . ,		
ODOR	None						
LEAKS	YES		NO _	√			
LOCATION							
NEW CONSTRUCTION	YES	√	NO				
HOUSES	YES	√	NO _				
UTILITY	YES		NO _	√			
NATURE							
FREQUENCY CHECKE	D BY OPERATO	R 3	times per we	eek			
APPROXIMATE NUMB			20		TY OF SYSTEM	unknown	
LOCATION OF UTILIT		-	., Prosperity	, SC 2912			
LOCATION OF SYSTEM			ff Amick's I				
SYSTEM APPROVED I				NO	√ DATE		
IS SUBDIVISION PROV			FILITY?	YES	NO	√	
			BY WHOM?	S	eptic Tanks		
OTHER COMMENTS							

WATER SYSTEM INSPECTION

SYSTEM Emerald Shores	UTILITY Dowd Water Systems, Inc.		INSP:	INSPECTED BY		Charles A. Creech		
COMPANY REP	SYSTEM Emerald Shores			DATE INSPECTED		October 9, 2001		
NUMBER OF WELLS NOT IN OPERATION REASON FOR INOPERABLE WELLS PUMP HOUSES YES V NO NUMBER LECTRIC WIRING ACCEPTABLE LECTRIC WIRING ACCEPTABLE V FAULTY ELECTRIC WIRING ACCEPTABLE V FAULTY NO V FAULTY FAU			COM	PANY REP	Mrs.	Sue Dowd		
REASON FOR INOPERABLE WELLS PUMP HOUSES YES V NO NUMBER I LOCATION CHORINATOR OTHER CHEMICALS YES NO NO NON-PRESSURE TANK GROUND LEVEL FIRE HYDRANTS BLOW OFF AIR IN LINES YES NO CLARITY OF WATER GOOD ODOR LEAKS YES NO NO V NO NON-PRESSURE NO V NO V NO NON-PRESSURE NO V NO LOCATION NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO	TOTAL NUMBER OF WE	ELL SITES	2					
PUMP HOUSES YES	NUMBER OF WELLS NO	T IN OPERATION		0				
POMP HOUSES	REASON FOR INOPERA	BLE WELLS						
EXPOSED PIPING LOCATION CHLORINATOR OTHER CHEMICALS YES NO OTHER CHEMICALS YES NO IN USE YES NO STORAGE PRESSURE TANK GROUND LEVEL GROUND LEVEL SIZE IN GALLONS F.S.I. AT TANK SS FIRE HYDRANTS HYES NO AIR IN LINES YES NO V NO LEAKS YES NO V NO NO LEAKS YES NO V NO LOCATION NEW CONSTRUCTION HOUSES YES YES NO V NATURE FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION YES NO V DATE IS SUBDIVISION PROVIDED SEWER BY THIS UTILITY? YES NO V NO J CAPACITY OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SEPTIC Tanks	PUMP HOUSES	YES	√	- -	NUME			
LOCATION CHLORINATOR YES NO OTHER CHEMICALS YES NO IN USE YES NO STORAGE PRESSURE TANK GROUND LEVEL SIZE IN GALLONS 5,000 P.S.I. AT TANK 55 METERS YES NO FIRE HYDRANTS YES NO AIR IN LINES YES NO AIR IN LINES YES NO CLARITY OF WATER Good ODOR None LEAKS YES NO LOCATION NEW CONSTRUCTION YES V NO HOUSES YES NO NATURE FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR 3 times per week APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS 17 CAPACITY OF SYSTEM UT LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION YES NO BY WHOM? Septic Tanks	ELECTRIC WIRING	ACCEPT.	ABLE			FAULTY		
CHLORINATOR YES NO ✓ OTHER CHEMICALS YES NO ✓ IN USE YES NO ✓ STORAGE PRESSURE TANK NON-PRESSURE TANK GROUND LEVEL ✓ OVERHEAD SIZE IN GALLONS 5,000 VES P. S.I. AT TANK 55 VES METERS YES NO ✓ FIRE HYDRANTS YES NO ✓ BLOW OFF YES NO ✓ SAND IN WATER YES NO ✓ CLARITY OF WATER Good NO ✓ ODOR None VES NO ✓ LEAKS YES NO ✓ LOCATION YES ✓ NO V NEW CONSTRUCTION YES ✓ NO V NATURE FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR 3 times per week APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS 17 CAPACITY OF SYSTEM UT LOCATION OF UTILITY OFFICE 77 Dowd Rd., Prosperity, SC 29127 LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old	EXPOSED PIPING	YES		NO _				
OTHER CHEMICALS YES NO ✓ IN USE YES NO STORAGE PRESSURE TANK NON-PRESSURE TANK GROUND LEVEL ✓ OVERHEAD SIZE IN GALLONS 5,000 P.S.I. AT TANK 55 METERS YES NO FIRE HYDRANTS YES NO BLOW OFF YES NO AIR IN LINES YES NO SAND IN WATER YES NO ODOR None NO LEAKS YES NO LOCATION YES NO NEW CONSTRUCTION YES ✓ HOUSES YES NO UTILITY YES NO NATURE FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR 3 times per week APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS 17 CAPACITY OF SYSTEM LOCATION OF UTILITY OFFICE 77 Dowd Rd., Prosperity, SC 29127 LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION YES NO ✓ DATE IS SUBDIVISION PROVIDED SEWER BY THIS UTILI	LOCATION							
NUSE YES NO	CHLORINATOR	YES _						
STORAGE PRESSURE TANK	OTHER CHEM	ICALS YES _			√			
SIZE IN GALLONS	IN USE	YES _		NO _				
SIZE IN GALLONS P.S.I. AT TANK 55 METERS YES NO V NO V SIZE HYDRANTS YES NO V NO AIR IN LINES YES NO V SAND IN WATER Good ODOR None LEAKS YES NO V LOCATION NEW CONSTRUCTION HOUSES YES V NO V NO V NATURE FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOCATION OF SYSTEM LOCATION OF SYSTEM LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVIDED SEWER BY THIS UTILITY? YES NO V DATE NO J DATE NO DATE NO BY WHOM? Septic Tanks	STORAGE	PRESSURE TANI	Κ _					
P.S.I. AT TANK 55 METERS YES NO ✓ FIRE HYDRANTS YES NO ✓ BLOW OFF YES NO ✓ AIR IN LINES YES NO ✓ SAND IN WATER Good NO ✓ ODOR None		GROUND LEVEL	_	✓	OVERHEA			
METERS YES NO	SIZE IN GALLONS	5,000						
## FIRE HYDRANTS	P.S.I. AT TANK	55	, <u>.</u>					
BLOW OFF YES	METERS	YES		NO _	√	· ·		
AIR IN LINES SAND IN WATER YES NO CLARITY OF WATER Good ODOR None LEAKS YES NO V NO LOCATION NEW CONSTRUCTION HOUSES YES V NO HOUSES YES NO V NO HOUSES YES NO V NATURE FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOCATION OF UTILITY OFFICE 77 Dowd Rd., Prosperity, SC 29127 LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION SYSTEM APPROVIDED SEWER BY THIS UTILITY? BY WHOM? Septic Tanks		YES		NO _	√	·		
ARR IN LINES SAND IN WATER YES NO CLARITY OF WATER Good ODOR None LEAKS YES NO V NO LOCATION NEW CONSTRUCTION HOUSES YES V NO UTILITY YES NO V NO NATURE FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOCATION OF UTILITY OFFICE TO Dowd Rd., Prosperity, SC 29127 LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION BY WHOM? Septic Tanks	BLOW OFF	YES _	√_	NO _	····			
SAND IN WATER CLARITY OF WATER Good ODOR None LEAKS YES NO V NO LOCATION NEW CONSTRUCTION HOUSES YES NO V NO UTILITY YES NO V NATURE FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOCATION OF UTILITY OFFICE TO Dowd Rd., Prosperity, SC 29127 LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION SYSTEM APPROVIDED SEWER BY THIS UTILITY? IS SUBDIVISION PROVIDED SEWER BY THIS UTILITY? BY WHOM? Septic Tanks	AIR IN LINES	YES		NO _				
ODOR None LEAKS YES NO LOCATION NEW CONSTRUCTION YES	SAND IN WATER	YES		NO _	✓			
ODOR None LEAKS YES NO LOCATION NEW CONSTRUCTION YES	CLARITY OF WATER	Good						
LOCATION NEW CONSTRUCTION YES		None						
NEW CONSTRUCTION YES		YES		NO _	√		*	
HOUSES UTILITY YES NO NATURE FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOCATION OF UTILITY OFFICE TO Dowd Rd., Prosperity, SC 29127 LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION BY WHOM? Septic Tanks								
HOUSES UTILITY YES NO NATURE FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS LOCATION OF UTILITY OFFICE TO Dowd Rd., Prosperity, SC 29127 LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION BY WHOM? Septic Tanks								
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FREQUENCY CHECKED BY OPERATOR 3 times per week APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS 17 CAPACITY OF SYSTEM UT LOCATION OF UTILITY OFFICE 77 Dowd Rd., Prosperity, SC 29127 LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION YES NO ✓ DATE IS SUBDIVISION PROVIDED SEWER BY THIS UTILITY? YES NO BY WHOM? Septic Tanks	UTILITY	YES .		NO _	✓			
APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS 17 CAPACITY OF SYSTEM UT LOCATION OF UTILITY OFFICE 77 Dowd Rd., Prosperity, SC 29127 LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION YES NO ✓ DATE IS SUBDIVISION PROVIDED SEWER BY THIS UTILITY? YES NO BY WHOM? Septic Tanks			,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,					
APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF COSTOMERS 17 CHI TOTAL CONTROL OF COSTOMERS 17 CHI TOTAL CHI TO						TY OF GIOTES	unknown	
LOCATION OF SYSTEM Lexington County (Old Ferry Rd) SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION YES NO ✓ DATE IS SUBDIVISION PROVIDED SEWER BY THIS UTILITY? YES NO BY WHOM? Septic Tanks					_		UIIKIIOWII	
SYSTEM APPROVED BY COMMISSION YES NO ✓ DATE IS SUBDIVISION PROVIDED SEWER BY THIS UTILITY? YES NO BY WHOM? Septic Tanks	LOCATION OF UTILIT							
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BY WHOM? Septic Tanks					- * ' '			
	IS SUBDIVISION PROV	/IDED SEWER BY					Y	
OTHER COMMENTS				BA MHOW,	? <u>Se</u>	eptic Tanks		
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